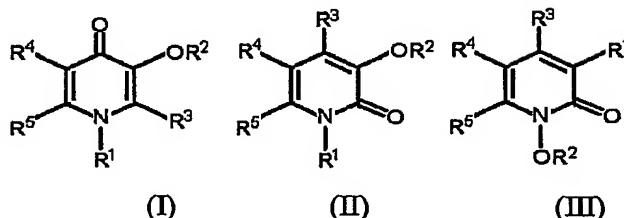


## CLAIMS

1. The use of a hydroxypyridonone of formulae (I-III):



- 5  $R^1$  represents a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)-alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)-alkenyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)-alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)-hydroxyalkyl, (C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-aralkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-cycloalkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)-carboalkoxy or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)-carbamyl, or a (C<sub>10</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>)-peptide or peptidomimetic moiety, or a (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-polyol or monosaccharide;
- $R^2$  represents an hydrogen atom or a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>22</sub>)-acyl, optionally substituted by (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)-alkoxy, carboxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)-alkoxycarbonyl, amino, hydroxy, said amino and hydroxy being optionally (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>22</sub>)-acylated or -alkylated;
- 10  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$ , each individually, represent a hydrogen atom, or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)-alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)-alkenyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)-alkoxy, (C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> aryl) alkyl, (C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-cycloalkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> carbo)-alkoxy or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)-carbamyl group; with the proviso that both  $R^1$  and  $R^3$  are not hydrogen;
- 15 and dermatologically/cosmetically salts thereof.
- for the manufacture of a topical medicament useful in the treatment of a skin microcirculatory disorder (SMD).
- 20 2. Use according to claim 1, wherein the MSD is rosacea.
3. Use according to claim 1, wherein the MSD is cutaneous vasculitis.
4. Use according to claim 1, wherein the MSD is actinic purpura.
5. Use according to claim 1, wherein the MSD is a skin capillaritis.
6. Use according to claim 8, wherein the skin capillaritis is selected in the group
- 25 consisting of progressive pigmentary dermatosis, purpura annularis telangiectodes, lichen aureus, contact allergy skin capillaritis, and lichens aureus. itching purpura, eczematid-like purpura, and pigmented purpuric lichenoid dermatosis.

7. Use according to claim 1, wherein the MSD is consequence of a traumatic intradermal haemorrhage selected in the group consisting of drug-induced pigmented purpuric dermatosis and complication of sclerotherapy, lipoplasty and tattooing.
- 5 8. Use according to claim 1, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are methyl,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are hydrogens.
9. Use according to claim 1, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are ethyl  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are hydrogens.
10. Use according to claim 1, wherein  $R^1$  is  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ ,  $R^2$  is methyl or ethyl, and  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are hydrogens.
- 10 11. A method for the treatment of skin microcirculatory disorder (SMD) comprising the local application to a mammal in need thereof of a therapeutically effective amount of hydroxypyridonone compound according to claim 1 in admixture with a dermatologically/cosmetically acceptable ingredients and carriers.
12. Method according to claim 11, for the treatment of rosacea, cutaneous vasculitis,  
15 and actinic purpura.
13. Method according to claim 14, for the treatment of progressive pigmented purpura, itching purpura, pigmented purpuric lichenoid dermatosis, purpura annularis telangiectodes, contact allergy skin capillaritis, and lichens aureus.
14. Method according to claim 14, for the treatment of traumatic skin haemorrhage,  
20 complication of sclerotherapy, lipoplasty or tattooing, drug-induced pigmented purpuric dermatosis, and actinic purpura.